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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Rodolfo Napoli : Group  
Serial No: 10/587,851 : Art Unit #1793  
Filed: 28 July 2006 : Examiner:  
Title: PIT FURNACE CLOSING SYSTEM : S. R. Kastler

**AMENDMENT**

Mailstop- Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Examiner issued an Office Action dated 10 September 2008 in the above-referenced Patent Application. In that Office Action, the Examiner set a 3-month shortened statutory period for reply. The reply period having now expired, a Request and fee for a two month Extension of Time are concurrently filed herewith to ensure timely filing. Responsive to that outstanding Office Action, please amend the above-referenced Patent Application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the Listing of Claims which begins on page 13 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page 16 of this paper and include a replacement sheet.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 17 of this paper.

**An Appendix** including a replacement Drawing of Fig. 1, a clean copy of the amended Specification, and a clean copy of the amended Abstract is included following page 24 of this paper.